

REMARKS

The above Amendment to the specification is introduced to characterize this application as a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/829,429 that was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 9, 2001, and that issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,645,924 on November 11, 2003.

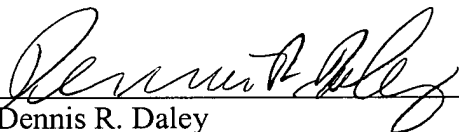
The Amendment to the claims cancels original claims 1-24 and introduces new claims 26-38. Upon entry, claims 25-38 are active in this application.

It is believed that this application is in condition for examination. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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